Sea erosion along the coastal area of Maharashtra

5471. SHRI SATISHCHANDRA SITARAM PRADHAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the severe problem of sea erosion along the coastal area of Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the quantum of assistance given to Maharashtra for coastal protection during the last three years;

(c) whether any funds earmarked during the Ninth Five year plan for the purpose;

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not the reasons therefor;

(e) whether there is any plan to use modern technologies to check coastal erosion in coastal area of Maharashtra; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Central Government has not provided any Central Assistance to Maharashtra for Coastal Protection Works over and above the annual plan outlay earmarked for flood control subsector, including sea erosion, during the last three years.

(c) and (d) The Ninth Plan agreed outlay for flood control including sea-erosion works in Maharashtra is Rs. 2.7 crore.

(e) and (f) Besides the conventional structural and non-structural measures PVC coated gabions and flexible nylon gabions have been used on experimental basis in some of the coastal States. Sea wall using high density monofilament woven plastic cloth as filter material have also been successfully tried. Performance of the structures constructed using alternate designs/modern technology would have to be monitored for some more seasons before arriving at definite conclusions about the use.

Revival of Water Storage and Management

†5472. SHRI JANESHWAR MISRA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that all the old techniques of water storage and management in the country are gradually vanishing;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.